GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:855
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2002
LOSS OF FOODGRAINS IN TRANSIT
MAHESHWAR SINGH;SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains transported by goods train during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of foodgrains lost due to transit and theft during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the measures taken by the Union Government to prevent the theft of foodgrains during transit; and

(d) the details of discussions held with the Ministry of Railways to curb the menace and check the loss of foodgrains in transit?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SH KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a): The quantity of foodgrains transported by goods train by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the last three years is as follows:

(In Lakh MT)

Year	Quantity (Provisional)
1998-1999	178.97
1999-2000	212.32
2000-2001	158.10

(b): The quantity of foodgrains lost in transit during last three years and the value thereof is as follows:

Year	Quantity of transit shortages (in lakh MT)	Value of loss in Rs. crores
1998-99	2.91	218.35 (Provisional)
1999-2000	2.89	244.00 (Provisional)
2000-2001	1.84	172.00 (Provisional)

(c): The following measures have been taken by the Government to prevent the theft of foodgrains during transit:

(i) Identification of vulnerable points.

(ii) Escorting of goods trains by Railway Protection Force on vulnerable sections.

(iii) Intensive beat patrolling in yards and other affected areas / sections by RPF.

(iv) Induction of CISF at vulnerable depots to curb theft and pilferage.

(v) Special squad checking at selected railhead transhipment and destination/despatch centres.

(vi) Installation of lorry electronic weighbridges and their surprise inspection.

(vii) Close coordination between RPF, GRP and local police at various levels to apprehend criminals and receivers of stolen property.

(d): The matter has not been discussed at the Ministry level recently.